

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SIL-01

LAB-04 EB-07 COME-00 AID-05 IO-10 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05

SCCT-01 /099 W

----- 118724

R 240819Z OCT 75

FM AMCONSUL DURBAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2054

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

UNCLAS DURBAN 0366

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PINS, SF

SUBJ: KWAZULU GOVERNMENT AND BANTU INVESTMENT CORPORATION

AGREE TO TAKE OVER NEWCASTLE BUS FIRM

REF: DURBAN 345 AND PREVIOUS

1. IN AN ATTEMPT TO END MONTH-OLD NEWCASTLE BUS BOYCOTT, THE KWAZULU GOVERNMENT AND BANTU INVESTMENT CORPORATION (BIC) HAVE ANNOUNCED THAT THEY WILL FORM A "HOLDING COMPANY" TO OPERATE TRANS TUGELA TRANSPORT COMPANY, AS WELL AS OTHER BUS FIRMS OPERATED BY BIC IN KWAZULU. AGREEMENT WAS REACHED DURING FOUR HOUR MEETING IN KWAZULU CAPITAL OF NONGOMA OCTOBER 22 BETWEEN DEPTY MINISTER BANTU ADMINISTRATION PUNT JANSON, KWAZULU CABINET, REPRESENTATIVES FROM NEWCASTLE TOWNSHIPS OF MARADENI AND OSIZWENI, BUS COMPANY OFFICIALS, AND MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE BIC. NEW PROPOSAL WILL BE PRESENTED TO TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS FOR RATIFICATION BEFORE BOYCOTT WILL END.

2. COMMENT: INITIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW PROPOSAL GAVE NO UNCLASSIFIED

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DETAILS OF PROJECT'S FINANCING. COST PROBLEM FACING BUS

COMPANIES IS DEFINITELY SERIOUS. THE FINANCIAL MAIL
ESTIMATES COSTS FOR BUSES HAVE INCREASED 53 PER CENT, FUEL 15.3
PER CENT, TIRES 36 PER CENT, AND WAGES 65 PER CENT BETWEEN
1972 AND THE WEEK PRIOR TO THE RECENT DEVALUATION OF THE
SOUTH AFRICAN RAND. CONTENTIOUS ISSUE OF WHO WILL PAY FOR
THESE INCREASE IN COSTS, AT THE MOMENT, NOT CLARLY
RESOLVED.
FARBER

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NNN

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